

Application Serial No. 09/898,295

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed March 9, 2006, Applicants amend the claims and request consideration of the remarks that follow. In this response, Applicants amend claims 13 and 16. Applicants do not cancel any claims. Accordingly, claims 13-16 are pending in this Application.

The Examiner stated that claims 13 through 16 "would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections, set forth in this Office Action." (page 2 of the Office Action) The Office Action further stated that prosecution on the merits was now closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle (page 3). In an effort to advance the prosecution of this case, claims 13 and 16 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Thus, claims 13 through 16 remain pending in the application and are believed to be allowable. Allowance of all pending claims is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the above in greater detail, then the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience.

Dated: May 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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